

## 2023 Healers - Kerrington

Audio	Video
<b>[Music]</b>	An Evening for Healers logo with the text Celebrating Heroes, Healing, and Hope a purple and blue background is revealed a light pans across the screen
<b>[Shanna]</b> My daughter Kerrington was 16 years old. She was a Junior at Byrd High School.	Photo of beautiful, medium complected teenager with long braids and a bright smile (Kerrington), posing on the Shreveport Riverfront.
She was really shy, but she was outspoken in a way.	Medium complected woman with shoulder length dark braids wearing a blueish purple blouse in front of a black background Text: Shanna Jones Kerrington's Mother
She always made us laugh.	Photo of Kerrington, Shanna, and a third woman in Christmas colored blouses, smiling and posing in front of a Christmas tree
On January 9th, it was a typical day.	Photo of a smiling Kerrington in a white blouse, jeans and boots posing in front of a display of giant red blue and gold Christmas ball ornaments
And then that afternoon, when I got off work, Kerrington was there. And we had a conversation. She went to her room. When I walked into her room, it's when I found her, in her closet. She had hung herself.	Shanna on camera. She is fighting back tears
<b>[Music]</b>	Purple and blue washed background Text: Kerrington was non-responsive Text: An ambulance arrived and transported her to Ochsner L S U Health Shreveport

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<p><b>[Lauren]</b> Her prognosis was very grim. She was intubated. Whenever I got there that morning, she wasn't responsive. She wasn't responding to pain. It definitely did look dismal at that point. As I was able to start kind of having that conversation very slowly with Shanna about how things would happen if she if Kerrington did continue on, on the path that she had been on, where she was not making any progress.</p> <p>She was very receptive to it. She was very, very tearful. Obviously. I can't imagine what a parent goes through as as they're losing their child or thinking that they're even going to, that they might lose their child.</p>	<p>Pale woman with long blonde hair in blue scrubs in front of a black background Text: Lauren Thomas Trauma P I C U Nurse</p>
<p><b>[Shanna]</b> At 10:42 a.m. on January 11th, my sweet baby Kerrington left this place.</p>	<p>Shanna on camera she visibly struggles for words before dropping her head and crying</p>
<p><b>[Music]</b></p>	<p>Purple and blue washed background Text: 20 percent of high school students have serious thoughts of suicide. Text: 8 point 9 percent have made a serious attempt.</p>
<p><b>[Dr. Patterson]</b> There is an epidemic in teenagers these days. It's getting worse, not better.</p>	<p>Male doctor with short graying hair and glasses wearing a white coat in front of a black background Text: James C Patterson the second, M D, P H D Professor and Chair of Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine</p>
<p><b>[Dr. McPherson]</b> We've seen a steady rise in the stress reported by teens. And we've seen an increase in the rates of suicide.</p>	<p>Female doctor with very short cropped hair wearing glasses and a white coat in front of a black background Text: Pamela McPherson, M D, F A P A Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist Vice Chair of Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine</p>
<p><b>[Dr. Patterson]</b> Talk to your kids. Communicate. Sit down and talk.</p>	<p>Doctor Patterson on camera</p>

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<p><b>[Dr. McPherson]</b>  Parents need to be aware of any changes in their teen’s behavior. Changes in sleep pattern. More withdrawal, a drop in grades. These things can be signals that there’s a mental health issue. If a teen or a child begins talking about being a burden, they’re talking about not wanting to live anymore. Talking about death. These can be signals that the parent should ask deeper questions. Everyone needs to know that asking about suicide does not put that thought in anyone’s head, and it can actually save a life.</p>	<p>Doctor McPherson on camera</p>
<p><b>[Music]</b></p> <p><b>[Shanna]</b>  I don't know if I could have asked for a better group of people to take care of my baby. It takes extraordinary</p>	<p>Photo of Kerrington smiling from same Christmas photo shoot as before</p>
<p>type of person to work there. I will never in my life forget how they loved my baby. You know how they loved us. One nurse in particular Miss L.T. Her name is Lauren Thomas. She will always and forever stand out. She was concerned about me.</p>	<p>Shanna on camera</p>
<p><b>[Lauren]</b>  I kind of felt like I knew what the conversation was going to go, or the direction that the conversation was going to go in, and I knew they were going to need me.</p>	<p>Lauren on camera</p>
<p><b>[Shanna]</b>  She got the best care in spite her not making it. This is the absolute</p>	<p>Photo of Kerrington smiling in front of a Christmas tree</p>
<p>best place for any type of situation to come to. You could not have gone through what we have gone through without the help and support of each and every of you.  And I thank you.</p>	<p>Repeat of photo of Kerrington, her mom and another woman smiling in front of Christmas tree</p>
<p><b>[Music]</b></p>	<p>Purple and blue washed background  Text: Suicide is now the third leading cause of death for ages 15-24</p>

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<p><b>[Dr. Patterson]</b>  Consider counseling for prevention.  Consider counseling to talk to someone to prevent problems. I highly recommend considering that if you think anything is going on.</p>	<p>Doctor Patterson on camera</p>
<p><b>[Dr. McPherson]</b>  There is help for teens and for families facing this issue. We know how to support families going through struggles. Please ask for help.</p>	<p>Doctor McPherson on camera</p>
<p><b>[Music]</b></p>	<p>Purple and blue washed background  Text: For the suicide and crisis lifeline call 988  Available 24 hours</p>
<p><b>[Lauren]</b>  I think that Kerrington would be very happy in knowing that her story is getting shared, even if it helped just one person.</p>	<p>Lauren on camera</p>
<p><b>[Music]</b></p>	<p>An Evening for Healers logo with the text Celebrating Heroes, Healing, and Hope a purple and blue background is revealed a light pans across the screen</p>